Docket No.: 21029-00272-US

Examiner: L. L. Zheng

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Francois Mignard

Application No.: 10/790,712 Confirmation No.: 4299

Filed: March 3, 2004 Art Unit: 1742

For: PROCESS FOR THE CONTROLLED

OXIDATION OF A STRIP BEFORE CONTINUOUS GALVANIZING, AND

GALVANIZING LINE

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated March 9, 2007, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 6 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 7 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.